

THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF CALEXICO MET IN REGULAR SESSION ON FEBRUARY 1, 2006 AT CALEXICO CITY HALL, 608 HEBER AVE., CALEXICO, CALIFORNIA. THE DATE, HOUR AND PLACE DULY ESTABLISHED FOR THE HOLDING OF SAID MEETING.

CALL TO ORDER.

The meeting was called to order at 8:15 a.m. by Chairman Earl Roberts and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ATTENDANCE

Chairman	Earl Roberts
Vice-Chairman	Jose Lopez
Commissioner	Gil Acuña
Commissioner	Kimberly Collins
Commissioner	Fernando Arango
Commissioner	George Rashid <i>absent</i>
Honorary Seat	Ricardo Martinez
Commissioner	Blanca Lopez - <i>absent</i>
Guest	David Perez Tejada – Mexicali International affairs
Guest	Tim Kelly – CEO, IVEDC
Guest	Joe Moreno – Vice President, Chamber of Commerce
Staff	Rosalind Guerrero, Julia Osuna, Ralph Morales

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Commissioner Kimberly Collins to approve the agenda as presented. Motion seconded by Commissioner Jose Lopez. Vote to wit:

Ayes:	K. Collins, J. Lopez, E. Roberts, F. Arango, G. Acuña
Noes:	None
Absent:	B. Lopez, G. Rashid

ANNOUNCEMENTS/PUBLIC COMMENTS

Joe Moreno, Calexico Chamber of Commerce Vice President, informed the EDC of the Enterprise Zone expiration in October 2006. He urged the EDC members to please suggest to Calexico City Council members to please consider a new application for a re-designation of 15 years as an Enterprise Zone.

After discussion on the subject, Chairman Earl Roberts directed staff to write a letter to the Calexico City Council in behalf of the EDC in support of applying for a new designation.

Ms. Rosalind Guerrero informed the EDC that a consultant would be hired to provide support in the application process. The request will be on the City Council Agenda on March 7, 2006. She invited the EDC to attend the meeting to show support for the request.

CONSENT AGENDA:

A motion was made by Commissioner Kimberly Collins to approve the consent agenda consisting of minutes for special meeting of January 4, 2006. Motion seconded by Commissioner Jose Lopez: Vote to wit:

Ayes:	K. Collins, J. Lopez, E. Roberts, F. Arango, G. Acuña
Noes:	None
Absent:	B. Lopez, G. Rashid

NEW BUSINESS:

A motion was made by Commissioner Kimberly Collins to designate Director of International Affairs of the Mayor's office of Mexicali B.C. Mex. as an Honorary seat. Motion seconded by commissioner Jose Lopez: Vote to wit:

Ayes:	K. Collins, J. Lopez, E. Roberts, F. Arango, G. Acuña
Noes:	None
Absent:	B. Lopez, G. Rashid

Mr. David Perez Tejada, thanked the EDC for providing an opportunity to serve as a honorary member. He feels that this relationship is good and will benefit both cities.

OLD BUSINESS:**ECONOMIC STRATEGIC PLANNING**

Mr. Tim Kelly, CEO for Imperial Valley Economic Development Corporation (IVEDC) representing the **International Committee** provided the EDC with an update. The committee consist of Earl Roberts, Fernando Arango, Ricardo Martinez and David Perez Tejada. The main topics for this committee are both Ports of Entry, Crossing Time, Human Trafficking, movement of products and goods. The committee agrees a study must be performed to ease congestion and improve trade. The International Airport should be included in this study. The committee is aware that the Truck Traffic needs to have the Port of Entry extend their hours. They understand there is not enough staffing at the Ports of Entry to increase the hours of the commercial port. They will recommend that a Port of Entry Authority Coalition be formed. It was concluded that the Mexican Aduana will need to be contacted to verify what can they offer to improve the areas of concern.

Chairman Earl Roberts added they have discussed the possibility of talking to Western Growers Association about the Guest Worker Program.

EDC member Ms. Kimberly Collins asked for an update on the old Commercial Port of Entry. David Perez Tejada, Director of Mexicali International affairs stated he could invite Mr. Ramon Riesgo from GSA next month March. He can coordinate this with RDA staff.

Ms. Rosalind Guerrero, Redevelopment and Economic Development Manager updated the EDC members on the **Image Committee**. The committee has met twice and have discussed "When people visit or come to Calexico what impression do they have and what do they think." Why can't Calexico be like Palm Springs with greenery? The items that come to mind are sidewalk sales, dirty sidewalks, swap meets, and dirty alleys. The committee is considering a "Keep Calexico Clean Campaign". Signage for directions to main facilities and entrance signs are also important for image. We can have community Gardens with Senior involvement. We are looking to establish a city volunteer program in code enforcement. We are researching other cities for more information. The Image committee will continue to meet every two weeks.

Mr. Tim Kelly, IVEDC-CEO stated there maybe opportunities for the Builders Association to contribute to the City of Calexico by paying for a Directional Sign. He will research this for the EDC/image committee. He also mentioned that WIB can offer crews to paint, clean sidewalks and maintenance work.

Member Fernando Arango suggested the Image committee can work on a beautification/ image plan for the City of Calexico. He stated City of Brawley has a plan.

TIME AND DAY OF MEETINGS

A motion was made by Commissioner Kimberly Collins to change the EDC Bylaws section 2.30.050.1#2 to read: "The time of the scheduled meetings shall be held once a month on the first Wednesday at the most convenient time possible at the specified location at the time of issuing agenda. Motion seconded by Commissioner Jose Lopez: Vote to wit:

Ayes:	K. Collins, J. Lopez, E. Roberts, F. Arango, G. Acuña
Noes:	None
Absent:	B. Lopez, G. Rashid

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

Earl Roberts, Chairman